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House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 10 public bills, H.R. 2170–2179 were introduced. **Pages H5400–01**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:
Report on the Revised Subdivision of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 1998 (H. Rept. 105–185);

H.R. 1362, to establish a demonstration project to provide for Medicare reimbursement for health care services provided to certain Medicare-eligible veterans in selected facilities of Department of Veterans Affairs, amended (H. Rept. 105–186 Part I);

H. Res. 187, providing for consideration of H.R. 1853, to amend the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act (H. Rept. 105–187); and

H.R. 2169, making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998 (H. Rept. 105–188). **Page H5400**

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative LaHood to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H5303**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, the Rev. Joe Clark of Annandale, Virginia. **Page H5303**

Presidential Message—Fisheries Agreement: Read a message from the President wherein he transmits his agreement between the United States and the People's Republic of China concerning fisheries off the coasts of the United States—referred to the Committee on Resources and ordered printed (H. Doc. 105–106). **Page H5309**

VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act: By a yea and nay vote of 397 yeas to 31 nays, Roll No. 280, the House passed H.R. 2158, making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998. The House completed

debate and considered amendments on Tuesday, July 15. **Pages H5309–71**

By a yea-and-nay vote of 193 yeas to 235 nays, Roll No. 279, rejected the Kennedy of Massachusetts motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report it back to the House forthwith with amendments that increase the funding for Public Housing Agency Grants, Economic Development Grants, Youthbuild Program Activities, and Homeless Assistance Grants. **Pages H5369–70**

Agreed To:

The Lewis of California en bloc amendment that increases funding for National Cemetery construction by \$5.5 million and decreases Grants for Construction of State Extended Care Facilities funding accordingly. **Pages H5309–10**

The Solomon amendment that, upon enactment of legislation establishing the Medical Collection Fund, provides assurances of an additional \$579 million for veteran medical care if third party receipts fall short, and reduces EPA Science and Technology Funding by \$27 million to fund these assurances; **Pages H5310–18**

The Lewis of California amendment that decreases National Science Foundation research funding by \$174,000; **Pages H5322–36**

The Obey amendment that increases veteran medical care funding by \$48 million and decreases Emergency Management Planning and Assistance funding for a windstorm simulation center by \$60 million (agreed to by a recorded vote of 322 yeas to 110 noes, Roll No. 276); **Pages H5339–40**

The Stokes amendment that strikes language earmarking \$60 million of Emergency Management Planning and Assistance funding for a windstorm simulation center (agreed to by a recorded vote of 244 yeas to 187 noes, Roll No. 277); **Pages H5318–19, H5340**

The Bentsen amendment that prohibits any funding to be used for the import of PCB's and PCB items into the United States; and **Pages H5343–45**

The Solomon amendment that prohibits the use of funds for grants or contracts to any institution of higher learning that bars ROTC or military recruiters access to the general student population. **Page H5345**

Rejected: The Sensenbrenner amendment that sought to reduce Human Space Flight funding by \$100 million (rejected by a recorded vote of 200 ayes to 227 noes, Roll No. 278).

Pages H5319–22, H5340–41

Points of Order Sustained Against:

Section 420 of the bill, that sought to make funding available for conservation and management plans notwithstanding section 320(g) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act;

Page H5343

The Vento amendment that sought to increase FEMA Emergency Food and Shelter Program funding by \$30.1 million and reduce the NASA Human Space Flight program by \$43 million; and

Pages H5345–47

The Hefley amendment that sought to increase EPA Leaking Underground Storage Tank program funding by \$11.2 million and decrease HUD Management and Administration Salaries and Expenses funding by \$31 million.

Pages H5362–63

Withdrawn:

The Wise amendment was offered but subsequently withdrawn that sought to provide \$3 million for expenses of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board with the funding for it to be derived from the EPA Environmental Programs and Management account; and

Pages H5336–39

The Foley amendment was offered but subsequently withdrawn that sought to reduce the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund Program Account by \$75 million.

Pages H5347–62

The House agreed to H. Res. 184, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill on July 15.

Pages H5247–51

Agriculture Appropriations: The House completed general debate on H.R. 2160, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998. Consideration of amendments will begin on Thursday, July 17.

Pages H5372–82

Amendments: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on pages H5401–05.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes and three recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H5339–40, H5340, H5341, H5370, and H5370–71. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 11:00 a.m. and adjourned at 11:45 p.m.

Committee Meetings

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BUDGET

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on the District of Columbia held a hearing on the Fiscal Year 1998 D.C. Budget. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the District of Columbia: Marion Barry, Mayor; and Linda Cropp, Acting Chairman, Council; and Andrew F. Brimmer, Chairman, Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority.

GOVERNMENT SPONSORED ENTERPRISES

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Securities and Government Sponsored Enterprises and the Subcommittee on Government Management, Information and Technology of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight held a joint oversight hearing on Government Sponsored Enterprises. Testimony was heard from Jim Bothwell, Chief Economist, GAO; Thomas Woodward, Economist, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

NATIONAL SALVAGE MOTOR VEHICLE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Telecommunications, Trade, and Consumer Protection approved for full Committee action amended H.R. 1839, National Salvage Motor Vehicle Consumer Protection Act of 1997.

OLDER AMERICANS ACT AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Youth and Families continued hearings on the Authorization of the Older Americans Act. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ERGONOMICS: A QUESTION OF FEASIBILITY

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on Ergonomics: A Question of Feasibility. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Committee on International Relations: Held a hearing on the Democratic Republic of Congo: Problems and Prospects. Testimony was heard from Thomas Pickering, Under Secretary, Political Affairs, Department of State; J. Brian Atwood, Administrator, AID, U.S.